



SECRETARY OF THE ARMY  
WASHINGTON

01 AUG 2019

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Army Directive 2019-23 (Allocation of Wireless Portable Electronic Devices)

1. References:

a. Department of Defense Directive 8100.02 (Use of Commercial Wireless Devices, Services, and Technologies in Department of Defense (DOD) Global Information Grid (GIG)); April 14, 2004; Certified Current as of April 23, 2007.

b. Army Regulation 25-13 (Army Telecommunications and Unified Capabilities), 11 May 2017.

c. Army Regulation 735-5 (Property Accountability Policies), 9 November 2016.

d. Department of the Army Pamphlet 25-1-1 (Army Information Technology Implementation Instructions), 26 September 2014.

2. In support of ongoing reform initiatives, the Army must improve the management and accountability of portable electronic devices (PEDs) to increase visibility over the devices and identify opportunities to reduce mobile costs.

3. Examples of PEDs include, but are not limited to, smartphones, cell phones, electronic tablets with cellular capability, air cards, MiFi hotspots, push-to-talk (or press-to-transmit)-enabled devices, and pagers. Initial assessments indicate the Army currently has allocated more than 220,000 PEDs.

4. This directive establishes the first Armywide allocation rules for organizations to determine which positions are eligible for specific types of PEDs.

5. All Army commands, organizations, and activities will complete implementation of the policy in the enclosure by 1 October 2019.

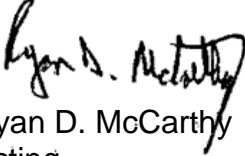
6. This directive applies to the Regular Army, Army National Guard/Army National Guard of the United States, and U.S. Army Reserve.

7. The Army Chief Information Officer/G-6 is the proponent for this policy and will incorporate the relevant provisions of this directive into Army Regulation 25-13 and Department of the Army Pamphlet 25-1-1 within 2 years of the date of this directive.

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8. This directive is rescinded upon publication of the revised publications.

Encl

  
Ryan D. McCarthy  
Acting

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## ALLOCATION OF WIRELESS PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES

1. Purpose. This directive provides Armywide policy for determining which positions are eligible for Government-owned, wireless portable electronic devices (PEDs).
2. Background. At the direction of the Secretary of the Army, the Chief Information Officer (CIO)/G-6 has established Armywide allocation rules for organizations to follow when issuing PEDs. The policy requires Army organizations to develop and maintain documentation of PED allocations. It also complements the Army's ongoing migration to an enterprise wireless contract for mobile devices, which could save up to 10 percent in programmed funding each year.
3. Intent. This policy will improve the visibility, accountability, and management of wireless PEDs and identify opportunities for the Army to reduce mobile costs.
4. Scope. This policy applies to all Army-allocated, Government-owned PEDs. A PED is defined as any nonstationary commercial electronic apparatus with the capability of recording, storing, and/or transmitting classified or unclassified information. The scope of this allocation policy is limited to classified or unclassified PEDs requiring supporting cellular and/or data services.
  - a. Examples of PEDs within the scope of the policy include, but are not limited to, smartphones, cell phones, electronic tablets with cellular service capability, air cards, MiFi hotspots, push-to-talk (or press-to-transmit)-enabled devices, and pagers.
  - b. PEDs within the scope of this allocation policy do not include devices used for group mission communications (for example, early entry communications kits or satellite phones). For the purposes of this policy, PEDs do not include laptop computers.
5. Policy. Effective immediately, Army commanders will:
  - a. ensure PEDs are allocated in accordance with the following criteria:
    - (1) No more than three PEDs (classified or unclassified) are authorized for general officers, flag officers, members of the Senior Executive Service, deputy commanders, and chiefs of staff.
    - (2) No more than two PEDs (classified or unclassified) may be allocated to each aide or executive assistant to a senior leader and directors of primary staff directorates (that is, those who report directly to general officers, flag officers, or members of the Senior Executive Service).
    - (3) No more than two PEDs (classified or unclassified) may be allocated to each commanding officer, deputy commanding officer, and command sergeant major serving at the brigade and battalion levels.

Enclosure

(4) No more than one PED (classified or unclassified) may be allocated to each company commander and/or first sergeant at Army organizations and commands.

(5) No PEDs (classified or unclassified) will be allocated to any other positions without written approval from Army personnel at or above the O-6 or GS-15 level. The approval must justify why allocation of the PED is mission critical. The approving official must ensure a copy of the written authorization is documented and available to auditors.

b. establish and maintain a documented basis of allocation for all Government-owned PEDs. The documented allocation rules for PEDs must:

(1) require accounting for all allocated PEDs (regardless of dollar value) in the Accountable Property System of Record according to Army Regulation 735-5 (Property Accountability Policies).

(2) specify the quantity of PEDs allocated to each position within the organization.

(3) specify the type of PED (for example, classified or unclassified, smartphone or tablet) allocated to each authorized position within the organization. PED allocations must account for device specification based on technical and mission requirements, feasibility, and/or cost considerations.

c. prohibit the allocation of PEDs when:

(1) the allocation of the PED is solely for convenience.

(2) alternatives are available to personnel, such as Government-owned, fixed telecommunication systems, desktops, or laptops.

(3) the PED substitutes for a tactical communication system for a field environment.

(4) the PED is used as an auxiliary or spare device to an already allocated Government-owned PED with active service.

## 6. Compliance

a. Army activity heads will ensure the documentation for PED allocation provides auditors with enough information to assess compliance with the requirements of this policy. Activities will fully document the basis of allocation in accordance with paragraph 5b. No later than 1 October 2019, activities will send a copy of the activity's documented allocation rules to the point of contact identified in paragraph 7.

b. The CIO/G-6, in coordination with U.S. Army Audit Agency and other organizations, as appropriate, may coordinate future audits to assess:

(1) Army compliance with this policy, including compliance with the quantities and types of PEDs allocated, as well as the sufficiency of the documentation of PED allocation.

(2) the effect of this policy on mission requirements, readiness, and the workload of personnel ensuring compliance.

c. The CIO/G-6 will review the results of all future audits associated with this policy and propose recommendations for improvement.

d. To the extent this policy affects bargaining unit employees' conditions of employment, commanders and supervisors are reminded to fulfill any applicable labor relations obligations prior to implementation.

7. Point of Contact. Email any questions about this policy to [usarmy.pentagon.hqda-cio-g-6.mbx.policy-inbox@mail.mil](mailto:usarmy.pentagon.hqda-cio-g-6.mbx.policy-inbox@mail.mil).